

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 7-9 and 14-19 have been allowed. A minor correction has been made to claim 7 changing “decrease” to “decreased”. In view of the nature of this correction no new search is required and no new matter has been introduced. The Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment and consideration of the certified information disclosure statement filed January 13, 2009 prior to issuance of this allowed application as a patent. The Applicants thank Examiner Hayes for agreeing to reconsider the certification of the information disclosure statement filed January 13, 2009. As requested by the Examiner and for his convenience, a copy of this IDS along with the associated Japanese Official Action is provided herewith.

Information Disclosure Statement

Kindly consider the information disclosure statement filed after final rejection on January 13, 2009. As shown by the attached copy, this IDS was filed with certification and the fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) within 3 months of the attached Japanese Official Action that issued on December 16, 2008. Accordingly, it should be considered under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), see MPEP 609.01.

Conclusion

The Applicants respectfully request consideration of the January 13, 2009 information disclosure statement and entry of this Amendment prior to issuance of this application as a patent.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon



Thomas M. Cunningham, Ph.D.
Registration No. 45,394

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)